Equal Rights

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Ambassadors of Feminism

Simone Téry (left), distinguished French writer, and Doris Stevens, chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, are seen before the Peace Palace at The Hague, where the World Conference on the Codification of International Law recently held its sessions. Miss Stevens and Mlle. Téry were leaders in the campaign conducted by the Feminists of various countries to secure equal nationality rights in the new International Code. An article by Mlle. Téry on Miss Stevens' work at The Hague appears in this issue of Equal Rights

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OBJECT OF THE WOMAN'S PARTY

The object of this organization shall be to secure for women complete equality with men under the law and in all human relationships.

THE LUCRETIA MOTT AMENDMENT

"Men and women shall have Equal Rights throughout the United States and every place subject to its jurisdiction."

"Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation."

[Senate Joint Resolution Number 52]
[House Joint Resolution No. 55]
Introduced in the Senate June 4, 1929, by Senator Gerald P. Nye, North Dakota.
Introduced in the House April 25, 1929, by Representative Frederick W. Magrady Pennsylvania.

In Behalf of Women Exiles

EVEN the most facile imagination cannot read into the pedantic terminology of the statutes their true implication with regard to human happiness. Examples are necessary to interpret the significance of the laws in the every-day life of men and women.

The campaign in behalf of equal nationality rights which was recently carried on at The Hague under the direction of Alice Paul appears to many people as primarily of academic interest. It is proper, of course, that men and women should have equal nationality rights, but how dull a subject to command the passing years of one's brief lifetime! In compiling the information that was used at The Hague and which is basic to the securing of equal nationality rights, Miss Paul spent two years of the most assiduous labor. Moreover, without her prolonged academic and legal training this monumental opus would have been impossible. And all in behalf of changing the phraseology of a musty statute!

But musty statutes govern the tenor of our ways and irreparable injustice may emanate from between the closed covers of a book on a bookshelf.

The picture changes when life interprets the meaning of the statutes. Equal nationality rights seem not at all an academic issue when we read in the press that an American-born woman, formerly of Denver, Colorado, is now on her way to Rome, an exile from her own country.

According to the Colorado press, Mrs. Laura Vankuran dell'Osso, until a few days ago a member of the faculty of Colorado Woman's College, will fight to regain admittance to the land of her birth.

A victim of the inflexible immigration laws, she sailed to avoid deportation.

Born in Omaha, Nebraska, as Laura Vankuran, she lost her American citizenship by marrying an Italian noble whom she met in Rome in 1920. Later she separated from her husband.

The bitter injustice of our nationality laws is well portrayed in this one instance. It was no musty statute that the Feminist ambassadors challenged at The Hague; instead it was a gauntlet thrown in behalf of women exiles.

In the Textile Industry

THAT the industrial exploitation of women and children through night employment in the Southern textile mills is the cause of the downfall of the cotton industry and that "the discontinuance of a disgraceful practice is all that is needed to restore prosperity" was the astounding statement made by Mr. Eben E. Whitman at a recent meeting of the National Association of Cotton Manufacturers in Boston. His conclusions savor of altruism but poor reasoning. Smooth indeed would be the way of the textile industry if its rehabilitation could take place so easily.

That the employment policies of the Southern textile mills are a disgrace to the country, all will admit. Nor is there any doubt that the cheap labor in the South has worked havoc with the profits of Northern manufacturers. Cheap labor has brought over-production, but over-production can be remedied, so says Mr. Whitman, by prohibiting the night work of women and children.

But should women be prohibited from working at night to save the textile industry?

If the textile industry wishes to do away with night work, well and good, provided, however, that the women who have been employed at night are given a chance to work during the day at a decent wage. Otherwise what is going to become of these women or their families? They cannot exist on the starvation wages paid to their husbands and fathers, and some of them are wholly dependent upon their own wages.

Mr. Whitman has succumbed to the popular fallacy of classing women with children. Most people will agree that children under eighteen should not be employed in the mills night or day. But as long as night work continues as part of our industrial life women, adult citizens, should have the right, as well as men, to choose whether they will work at night or not. Many women prefer to work at night, and many need to work night or day at whatever they can find to do to keep their families from starving. If mill owners and the public wish to help women, they can do so, not by prohibiting and regulating their employment, but by demanding that they receive adequate wages.

If mill owners want to be just and fair, or if they want to save the cotton industry by curbing over-production, they can agree to pay both men and women decent wages. Well-paid contented workers become consumers and are the best remedy for over-production.

Alma Lutz.

Woman Urged for Cabinet

AN active and well-supported campaign is being waged for the appointment of a woman in the President's Cabinet to succeed Secretary of Labor James J. Davis when he resigns in June.

Grace Abbott, of Illinois, chief of the Children's Bureau of the United States Department of Labor since 1921, is being urged for the appointment by many who have been associated with her in her long career of social work. She holds a labor union card as member of the Federal Employees' Union, which is affiliated with the American Federation of Labor.

The campaign for Miss Abbott as the first woman member of the Cabinet calls to mind the fact that the first member of the British Cabinet, Margaret Bondfield, holds the labor portfolio, a very important position in a Labor government in a country where unemployment is an acute problem.

Miss Abbott was director of the Immigrants' Protective League in Chicago and is author of "The Immigrant and the Community." She also served as executive secretary of the State Immigration Commissions of Illinois and Massachusetts. For many years, especially while she lived at Hull House in Chicago, the settlement founded by Jane Addams, Miss Abbott was particularly interested in the difficulties of the immigrant who is trying to adapt himself to American conditions.

Born in Grand Island, Nebraska, where her parents still live, Miss Abbott was graduated from Grand Island College and did graduate work in the University of Nebraska and the University of Chicago, receiving her master's degree in political science at the latter institution. She also studied law at the University of Chicago, and later taught in the University of Chicago and the Chicago School of Civics and Philanthropy.

Her first national service for children was as director of the Child Labor Division of the United States Children's Bureau, to which post she was appointed in 1917. After the first Federal child labor law was held unconstitutional by the United States Supreme Court, Miss Abbott held other public positions, including that of advisor on the War Labor Policies Board, secretary of the Child Welfare conferences, and secretary of the Children's Commission of the First International Labor Conference.

In 1922 Miss Abbott was appointed by the Secretary of State as the representative of the United States in a consultative capacity on the League of Nations advisory committee on the traffic in women and children, and in 1925 again represented the United States in this capacity.

In her work as director of the Children's Bureau Miss Abbott instituted and directed investigations in the field of maternal welware and hygiene, child labor, juvenile delinquency, dependency and deficiency, and administered the Federal Infancy and Maternity Act, called the Sheppard-Towner Act, until this work was discontinued by the Federal Government, under the provisions of the law, last June 30. This act provided for Federal aid to States in promoting the health of mothers and babies.

Doris Stevens at The Hague

By Simone Téry

EDITOR'S NOTE:—Simone Téry, in spite of her youth, is a gifted and well-known writer of the French post-war period. Writing might be said to be her family's preoccupation. Her father, Gustave Téry, founded and for many years directed "l'Oeuvre," an important French daily newspaper. Her mother is Andrée Viollis, well-known author, journalist and contributor to leading French magazines. Because of her singular intellectual achievements, Mlle. Téry was awarded the traveling scholarship given by the cercle "Du Tour du Monde." This scholarship enabled her to tour the world. While on this tour of study she buried herself in the Nationalist movement in China and wrote "La Fievre Jaune" (Yellow Fever). "In Ireland" and "The Isle of Bards," as well as a play on the civil war in Ireland, deal, as the names suggest, with the history of the Irish revolution. She has also constantly contributed to leading newspapers and French reviews. Her first novel, "Le Voyage Passionné," is now on the press. At present she is writing another play.

Mlle. Téry was among the Feminists who worked with the Inter-American Commission of Women and the National Woman's Party on behalf of equal nationality rights at the First Conference for the Codification of International Law, which closed at The Hague last month.

She was asked by EQUAL RIGHTS to write the story of the women's campaign for equality at the conference. Here is her story.

AS A FRENCH woman I should like today to pay homage to the magnificent leadership of Doris Stevens, which I happened to witness, by mere chance, it seems, during that eventful fortnight in The Hague, when a handful of women fought to defend the liberty of one-half of the human kind and challenged an army of jurists representing governments of more than forty nations.

Doris Stevens stood for me then as the symbol of American women's militancy as a whole, and through her my admiration went to the splendid spirit of combativeness and perseverance, of self-sacrifice, solidarity and idealism that American women have shown in their fight for freedom. I must confess I had to feel ashamed, those days, for other countries I had rather not mention here, when I compare their petty Feminist movements to that of America.

Other women in The Hague talked and went—like "prima donnas." Doris Stevens talked and stayed. And she acted. Alone in the world she lifted high the banner of woman's freedom. In the long run it will tell. All the women will realize some day what she did for them, and they will have to thank her, and America. I know now why and how the American women won their fight, and that if they did get their political rights, it was because they deserved them.

You all know Doris Stevens, at least by sight. You may not have noticed her when first you came across her. She doesn't like to be conspicuous. She will prefer to remain in the background until she cannot help stepping forward. When journalists entered the Inter-American Commission headquarters, asking for her, wanting to interview her, to write about her, I have often seen her not stir, going on quietly with her work, when she thought somebody else could explain her ideas. The ideas were the important thing to her, not herself. This is too rare a thing with leaders not to deserve mentioning.

But as soon as she allows one to notice her, one is at once struck by her intense personality. The look in her yellow eyes is commanding, direct, penetrating, unflinching, fiery. It reminded me of the look of the felines I saw in the East, fresh from the jungle, untamed yet by slavery. Just as the eyes of the fierce black panther I beheld in Singapore demanded freedom and blood, so are Doris Stevens' eyes demanding freedom and Equal Rights.

But those terrible burning eyes can turn within a second into laughing eyes, into warm, affectionate eyes. That accounts for her, that might otherwise seem somewhat inhuman, being actually the most human, sensitive, lovable, womanly woman.

Her mouth, too, which was, during those battle days, most of the time grave and tense, would suddenly curl into the most humorous smile, or bloom into the fresh, sparkling laughter of a child. Her nose is long and straight—but the most striking thing in her, besides her eyes, is her head. Such a big head it is, so full of brains it must be. And it is queerly shaped, like that of a bad school boy that will always break rules. I feel sure Doris must have broken all the rules in her school days. The bad school boys and girls of today are the leaders of tomorrow.

Her hair is not that fluffy, curly, sheepy kind of hair of the girls who are slaves—at least to their hairdresser. She keeps it smooth and boyish, with all sorts of funny straight wisps that have a life of their own, and will stick out in all directions in moments of joy, anger or excitement. You can know Doris' mood from behind merely by the expression of her hair.

Boyish is all her demeanor indeed, but

very feminine too. I shall always remember the loveliness of her attitude in that big impressive justice hall that night when, in front of an army of solemn jurists, she stood wrapped in a black velvet evening cape, lifting her delicately shaped arm and hand in a gesture so full of appeal, dignity and grace. The jurists must have learned at that moment, if never before, that Feminism doesn't bar a woman from being feminine.

Doris Stevens is a leader. She has both the moral and the intellectual qualities of real leadership.

A leader must be an idealist to begin with. Only through idealism, by appealing to what is best in the human heart, he can hope to win crowds. Washington, Lincoln, Michael Collins, Arthur Griffith, Gandhi, were or are idealists. Even the leaders who are not idealists pretend to be. Doris Stevens, too, is an idealist, sincere, generous, ardent. One feels she has given up everything—comfort, pleasure, personal work, happiness—for the great cause she has set her heart to—the freedom of women.

As all sound idealists, she is in search of the absolute; she is an extremist. She will not be contented with an imperfect world, she will not be at rest until it is perfect. She will not, like less generous-blooded politicians, be satisfied with half measures, with compromises, with temporization. She doesn't want 10 per cent. of her ideal; she wants the whole of it. She is a "fanatic," as her opponents are wont to say. Those who believe in her ideal will rather say that she belongs to the heroic race. She would ridicule the idea, I know. But one needs only look at her eyes to know she would readily give her life for her ideal, if that were necessary. That is heroism.

Just as she demands everything of her ideal, she demands everything of herself to achieve that ideal. In The Hague we hardly dared to mention such things as food or sleep, as she never did herself. She seemed to be living on air and Feminism. She was the last to come to the dining-room, the last to go to bed. At three in the morning you would have found her working solitary in the headquarters, writing statements, sending cables, preparing the next attack. And she never even indulged in complaining, as we all did, about being tired, or hungry. The only complaint I ever heard from her—and it came from her sense of beauty—was about the way her hair had been shaved, although the hairdresser pretended, as she put it, "he had been shaving ladies' hair for two hundred years." And she was right in that complaint, too.

Ruthless to herself, Doris Stevens is justified in being ruthless to others. And she is. Thus she manages to get the best everybody can give.

She knows indeed how to make people work for the cause—don't say "her cause," or you will get the thundering reply:

"It is not for *me* you are doing this; it is for yourself, and all the women of the world."

Not only work one's self, but make others work—that is one of the first achievements of leadership. Nobody can resist Doris Stevens. If a Prime Minister entered her office, she would have him lick envelopes for an hour. I don't know how she would manage it, but she would.

I am not a Prime Minister, but am probably even more difficult to induce to work. And I still wonder how Doris Stevens, whom I had never met in my life, made me suddenly—through a mere telephone call of five minutes—leave all my occupations in Paris, and labor in The Hague more in a fortnight than I do in six months of my ordinary indolent life. I suppose it was because she said:

"Alice Paul said you would come."

She knew one couldn't have met Alice Paul, her indomitable gentleness, and refuse to do what she wanted one to do. And when Doris added:

"Darling, come and help us!"

How could I have resisted? Doris Stevens' psychological instinct is so strong that even through telephone wire she guessed the arguments that would move me.

She never even thought—I realized it afterwards—of asking me whether I was a Feminist or not. She took it for granted.

I had an uneasy feeling of guilt in The Hague when I discovered I was practically the only woman there among our group never to have been put in prison for refusing to accept rebuffs and delays without protest. I tried to find excuses:

"You see," I pleaded, "French officials have a sense of ridicule. They wouldn't put a woman in prison for fear of being laughed at. They wouldn't imprison us in France even if we protested."

"Wouldn't they!" came from Doris Stevens, with that unforgettable look of hers.

That finished me. I had but to lower my head and blush more deeply. Doris Stevens was arrested in France because she has the true spirit of militancy. She is always on the first line of attack.

When a battle is over and one thinks of breathing awhile, Doris Stevens has already launched a new assault. She will not leave her opponent time to think. Onward she goes unflinchingly, using all kinds of weapons of wits in turn, always unexpected, always forceful.

When the discriminative articles had been accepted on first reading by the nationality committee and we were defeated, I thought everything was over and I could return to Paris. But to my utter amazement Doris started a new campaign against the drafting committee, and then against the nationality committee, second reading, and then against the plenary session, final vote, and then against the signing of the convention by the delegates! The fight was never ended for her. It will not be, I know, until the complete liberation of women. Terrific odds, far from discouraging her, seem only to enhance her pugnacity. Even when she knows she will be defeated, she fights as if she believed in victory. She does believe in it, indeed. And she is right to: future will give her ultimate victory.

Her quickness of action is astounding. When the battle seemed on the point of slackening, or when unexpected events occurred, Doris, on the spur of the moment, found the precise, cool, ruthless statement that would stir the pot boiling, she thrust the swift lunge that would ward off danger or touch the enemy.

She goes straight to her aim. Nobody, nothing can stop her. Once, just as we were going to the Peace Palace for the second vote on our nationality, a nice, quiet Dutch woman entered the room and went to Doris:

"I should like to have a talk with you * * *" she began.

"What about?"

"Would you kindly tell me what you think of the education of * * *"

"Come along with us to the Peace Palace," Doris said, dragging the bewildered woman into the car with her.

She didn't tell her what her idea about the education of subnormal children was, as was expected of her, but she told her all about the nationality rights of women and the probable attitude of the delegates at this session, and what was to be done about it. The good Dutch woman was made to help before she had time to draw a new breath. Before she had time to think or ask questions she was hurled into action.

At that point the taxi arrived behind a burial, a long row of slow cars, about to enter a cemetery.

"We can't wait until this man is buried," said Doris, frowning.

She took it for granted the deceased was a man, since he tried, even dead, to prevent her defending women's rights.

"Hoot the horn! How do you say 'hoot the horn' in Dutch?" cried Doris in despair.

I don't know how she managed it, but the horn was hooted, the solemn procession had to make room for us to arrive in time. This incident seemed symbolical to me. I felt Doris would pass over all the corpses, and ceremonies and the sacred past of the world to arrive where she has decided to arrive. What is important for her is not the dead, the past: it is the living and future.

She naturally wants others to be as quick as she is herself. How often have

I heard her repeat such words by which she would accelerate our rythm of action:

"Don't argue." "Time is precious." "Use your own brains." "You know all about it, don't you?" "You *can* do that, can't you?"

Doris Stevens has a delightful sense of humor. Through humor she gets people to work, in spite of temporary rebellion; through humor she wins affection.

One day a Dutch typist, who couldn't understand the turmoil and fever we were living in, threw her papers on the table, saying she wouldn't bear the speed and pressure any longer.

"Can't you see," exclaimed Doris Stevens, "that I have no time to be polite now? We shall all be polite this afternoon after this vote is over."

The typist laughed —and stayed.

Another time Doris explained:

"We are really well behaved — except with one another."

In the middle of rush, overwork, excitement, suddenly a peal of laughter from Doris relieved the atmosphere, finding quick answer.

"The hotel and the conference," a man delegate remarked, "would be very solemn and dull without the gaiety of those 'mad women' and those 'fanatics.'"

We may add that the conference would have been empty as well without the brilliant leadership of Doris Stevens. She advertised it, she provided for all its import, excitement, poetry, glamour. All that women obtained in the conference was due to Doris Stevens' militancy. But far greater will be the future of the grain she flung there.

When the time of the harvest comes, fortunate will be the few women who can remember the fiery laughing eyes and their thirst for justice—the eyes of Doris Stevens, the ardent sower.

The Status of Woman As Jurors

ARTICLE II.

The decisions of the courts concerning the effect of the extension of civil and political rights to women on their status as jurors.

By Burnita Shelton Matthews,

FOR long there has been considerable uncertainty and conflict of opinion as to whether the extension of civil and political rights to women qualifies them for jury service.

Wyoming, first to grant woman suffrage and first to elect a woman governor, early gave consideration to women as jurors. It is said that Wyoming was the first State to admit women to the jury box; that they served there even before they commenced voting in 1869. One story is that a jurist in outlaw communities called women for service because they were the only reliable citizens.[1] Whatever relation these rumors may have to the actual facts, the official reports disclose only a remark by the Supreme Court that previous to statehood in Wyoming certain inferior courts ruled favorably on the competency of women jurors but later reversed their ruling.[2] However, in the year 1892, a man convicted of larceny objected to a jury "exclusively composed of male persons" as being contrary to the Wyoming constitutional provision that "both male and female citizens shall equally enjoy all civil, political and religious rights and privileges." The Supreme Court declined to pass upon the right, duty, or eligibility of women as jurors, saying:

"We decide but this, and that is sufficient: * * * A man cannot claim that any * * * right or privilege of his or of his sex is infringed, invaded, or annulled by a statute excluding members of the other sex from the jury which tried him, or which by its terms confines the selection of jurors trying him to those of his own sex * * *. He has not been discriminated against because of sex."[3]

The territorial legislature of Washington gave women the vote in 1883, and as early as 1884 it was held that married women residing with their husbands are competent grand jurors within the meaning of a law declaring qualified electors and householders competent to serve as jurors. By 1887, however, a change in the membership of the court had taken place, and the then court overruled the 1884 decision in favor of women jurors, and declared the 1883 law giving the vote to women unconstitutional. It was not until 1910 that a woman suffrage measure was again pased, and the next year the disqualification of women as jurors was removed by statute.[4]

Time and again the question of the eligibility of women as jurors has been raised under constitutions or statutes giving suffrage to women. By amendment to the State constitution, Idaho became a woman suffrage State in 1896. At least as far back as 1900 women were sometimes summoned there as jurors. However, in 1924, an all-woman jury convicted a man of unlawful possession of liquor and he appealed, resentfully pointing out the statutes requiring jurors to be men. The Supreme Court held "that the jury statutes provide that a jury is a body of men" and that these statutes were not affected in any manner by the State woman suffrage amendment.[5] After California women became voters in 1911, they were drawn as jurors but an indictment returned by a mixed jury was set aside as in conflict with a law defining a jury as "a body of men" and it was not until 1917 that a statute enabled women to be jurors.[6] The right to vote for presidential electors and certain other officers was given to women in Illinois in 1913. There are Illinois decisions, rendered in 1915, where objection was made to the omission of women's names from the jury lists, the ruling being that "while women are legal voters for the election of statutory officers and certain other purposes, they are not thereby made eligible for jury service."[7] Objection was again made in Illinois to the omission of women's names, this being after the passage of the National Woman Suffrage Amendment. It was asserted that being a voter qualifies a person for jury service, but the Illinois Supreme Court held that women are disqualified as jurors; that the amendment had no effect whatever on the subject of the liability or eligibility of citizens for jury service.[8]

In Nevada, a man indicted by a grand jury on which women served claimed that the indictment was invalid because of the ineligibility of women. The Nevada Supreme Court held that "qualified electorship is the primary basis of the right or duty of jury service" and that the State constitutional amendment of 1914 entitling women to vote "impliedly carries with it the right, privilege and duty of jury service."[9]

In New York a woman sought to compel the officials in charge to include the names of women voters in the jury lists for Kings County but the court held that the New York law requires a juror to be "a male citizen"; that jury service is not incidental to and a part of suffrage; and that although women citizens were qualified to vote in New York in 1917, they may not sit as jurors until the legislature so decides.[10] The constitution of Michigan was amended in 1918, giving women the right to vote, and thereafter a woman serving as a grand juror in a criminal case was challenged on the ground that a woman is prohibited from serving as a juror. The court held that the moment a woman became an elector, "she was placed in a class of citizens from which class jurors were, under the statute to be selected."[11] Besides Illinois, there are seven States where judicial consideration has been given to the exclusion or inclusion of women jurors under the National Woman Suffrage Amendment. These seven States are Indiana, Iowa, Massachusetts, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, South Carolina and Texas. In Indiana, Iowa, and Pennsylvania, women were included on juries and objections were made to their service, the courts holding that women, having been given the vote by the amendment, were automatically made eligible jurors under laws providing that

jurors shall be selected from persons having the qualifications of electors.[12] Like Illinois, the States of Massachusetts, New Jersey, South Carolina, and Texas held that the amendment does not imply the right or privilege of jury service.[13] The Supreme Judicial Court made the ruling in Massachusetts at the request of the Massachusetts House of Representatives. The New Jersey decision was made in a case where the person on trial complained that the commissioners of juries of Camden County refused to select women for service. The position taken by the court was that before the adoption in 1921 of the New Jersey statute qualifying women as jurors, the law while not providing in terms that men shall be summoned, contained a distinct recognition of the common law qualification that men only shall be empaneled by the use of the personal pronouns of the masculine gender "he" and "his." A South Carolinian convicted of manslaughter raised the question of women's eligibility as jurors in his State by objecting to their exclusion, while in Texas a burglar complained that two women served on the grand jury which returned the indictment against him, the decisions being against the competency of women. Although the decisions of Illinois, Massachusetts, New Jersey, South Carolina and Texas are the same in result, South Carolina and Texas differ in that they exclude women under laws expressly stating that a jury is to consist of men while in the other three States the words of the statues are broad enough to include women but are interpreted to exclude them by implication.

[1]"The Woman Citizen," by Mary Sumner Boyd, p. 182-4.
[2]McKinney v. State, 3 Wyo. 723.
[3]Ibid.
[4]Rosencrantz v. Territory, 2 Wash. Terr. 267; Harland v. Territory, 3 Wash. Terr. 131; Const. Art. 7, Sec. 1; Laws 1911, Ch. 57.
[5]Knollin v. Jones, 7 Ida. 466; State v. Kelley, 39 Ida. 668.
[6]People v. Lensen, 34 Cal. App. 336.
[7]People v. Krause and People v. Goehringer, 196 Ill. App. 140, 472; Ill. Laws 1913, p. 333.
[8]People v. Barnett, 319 Ill. 403.
[9]Parus v. Dist. Court, 42 Nev. 229.
[10]Matter of Grilli, 110 Misc. 45; N. Y. Const., Art. 2, Sec. 1.
[11]People v. Barltz, 212 Mich. 580.
[12]Palmer v. State, 197 Ind. 625; State v. Walker, 192 Iowa 823; Commonwealth v. Maxwell, 271 Pa. 378.
[13]Opinion of the Justices, 237 Mass. 591; State v. James, 96 N. J. L. 132; State v. Mittle, 120 S. C. 526; Harper v. State, 90 Tex. Crim. 252.

Feminist Notes

Austrian Pioneer

WOMEN of Austria have erected a statue in honor of Auguste Fichert, Equal Rights pioneer, who lived from 1855 to 1910. She worked for equal opportunities to education and equal suffrage, at a time when the idea of Equal Rights was regarded by the majority as either absurd or utopian. She was a school teacher.

Fund to Emancipate Women

THE Soviet Government has voted a fund of approximately $300,000 to help emancipate women and make them independent, especially in regions where women are enslaved to the will of their husbands. The fund will be managed by the All-Soviet Committee to Improve Conditions of Women, which is sending out women's brigades to inspect various districts to see whether women get equal chance for appointment to higher executive posts.

The Central Committee of the Communist Party has decided to advance the appointment of women toward higher government posts.

This is indeed a unique step for a government to undertake!

Roumanian Woman Elected

MRS. IANCULESCU-REUSS, recently elected county councilor in the county in which Bucharest is located, is the first woman in Roumania to be elected to such a post. Women in Roumania were only last year granted the right to participate in communal or municipal elections.

Legislative Leader

NEW JERSEY claims to have the only woman legislative leader. Assemblywoman May M. Carty of Jersey City, who is serving her seventh year in the Assembly, is minority leader by right of senority, although she is the only woman in the group of Democrats in the Assembly.

Honor Bulgarian Leader

ALL Bulgaria recently honored Ekaterina Karavelova on the fiftieth anniversary of the beginning of her teaching career. Mrs. Karavelova opened a school for children in her own home fifty years ago, and continued her teaching for twenty years after her marriage to a leading statesman, even when her husband was Prime Minister. She brought up a family, took part in public life, wrote and translated several books, founded and directed women's societies, opened a girls' school for domestic science, and is now the leader of the peace movement in her country.

Presbyterian Women Win and Lose

THE Presbyterian General Assembly announced on May 12 that the overture permitting women to be elected ruling elders had been approved by a majority of the 293 presbyteries. The vote was up to that date 151 in favor of the overture and 114 against, making a majority regardless of the way the rest of the presbyteries vote. The overture will allow women to sit as members of congregational sessions of local churches and as members of presbyteries, synods, and the general assembly.

The overture to permit women to become ordained ministers was defeated and another overture to allow women to become licensed evangelists was in doubt at the time of the May 12 announcement.

Another "First"

MARION STEWART of Glasgow is the first Scottish woman to qualify as a veterinary surgeon. There are now eight women veterinary surgeons in Great Britain.

Turkish Women in Orchestras

WOMEN compose more than half the singing and playing talent in Turkish orchestras, says an *Associated Press* report.

Two Hundred Women Flyers

OF THE nearly 12,000 licensed airplane pilots in the United States, almost 200 are women, the Aeronautics Branch of the Departent of Commerce announces.

Only four of the 8,500 licensed mechanics are women.

California and New York lead in the number of licensed pilots, planes and mechanics, with Illinois, Texas, and Ohio coming third, fourth, and fifth.

"Build Your Own Home"

"BUILDING a small house for your own use is a task no more formidable, as far as fundamental rules are concerned, than designing your own dress," declares Isabella F. Henderson, secretary of the Railroad Co-operative Building and Loan Association, who for twenty-seven years has been encouraging women to build and own their homes.

First Naturalization Officer

CLARE T. WILLISON of Washington, D. C., is the first woman in the United States to be appointed district naturalization officer. She has been placed in charge of the Western District of North Carolina. She is a member of the Virginia bar and has been in the naturalization office in Washington since 1924.

First Woman Professor in Holland

DR. SOPHIE ANTONAIDES is the first woman professor in Holland. She is at Leyden University.

Jugoslav Woman Wins Prize

FOR the first time in history a woman, Radmila Radonic, a law student, has won one of the King's prizes presented to Belgrade University students. Six prizes of 2,000 dinars each are given by the King for theses in honor of Sava, the first Serbian archbishop and teacher, who lived in the early part of the thirteenth century.

Turk Woman Educator

NEZIHE MONHIDDINE has been named professor of physics and zoology in a leading boys' high school in Turkey. There are now four women lawyers in Turkey and a number of women teachers in minor positions.

Another Diplomat

DR. MALINSKA is the first woman appointed to the diplomatic service in Czechoslovakia. She is in the Ministry for Foreign Affairs.

Episcopal Women Win Vote

EPISCOPAL women were granted the right to vote and hold parish office in the Washington Parish, Navy Yard Parish, and Silver Spring (Md.) Parish at the annual convention of the Episcopal Diocese of Washington May 15.

Soviet Commissar

VARVARA YAKOVLEVA has been appointed Commissar of Finance for the Federated Soviet Socialist Republics. This is the highest post held by a woman in the Soviet. She is 44 years old and has been for years Assistant Commissar of Education.

Shoveling Coal

ALDA MARTELL has been earning her room by starting fires in the coal furnace of the home in which she lives at the University of Washington. She recently won a $100 scholarship for the girl with the best scholastic record.

Independent Women's Paper

WOMEN in Hungary who work outside their homes now have a special paper for their interests. Erzsi Brody founded the paper, called *Journal of the Women Who Work,* and is its editor. It is a monthly magazine which is growing rapidly.

Memorial for Mary Shaw

A MEMORIAL window for Mary Shaw, actress and Feminist, has been unveiled at the Little Church Around the Corner in New York City. Miss Shaw died May 18, 1929. The window was given by the Gamut Club, a professional women's organization founded by Miss Shaw.

Women Make All-Talkie

FOR the first time in history, they say, the production of talking picture has been given over to women. The director, author, business manager, film cutter, and star in a current talkie, "Sarah and Son," are all women. Dorothy Arzner, Paramount's only woman director, is in charge of the direction. Henrietta Cohn, only woman unit business manager at the studios, is the business manager. Zoe Akins wrote the screen play from Timothy Shea's novel. Verno Willis has charge of cutting and editing the picture. Ruth Chatterton plays the leading role.

Candidate for Senate

DR. JENNE CALFAS of Omaha has announced her candidacy for the Democratic nomination for Senator from Nebraska.

Press Comment

Women Assail Overtime Law

New York Sun, May 19, 1930

THE Mastick law, limiting overtime work for women in industry, was termed "class legislation of the most abominable kind" by women speakers at a meeting held under the auspices of the Natnonal Woman's Party in Town Hall yesterday.

The law, recently enacted by the Legislature and signed by Governor Roosevelt, discriminates against women who are competing with men in the work-a-day world, the speakers charged.

Mrs. Edith Houghton Hooker of Maryland, National Council member of the Woman's Party, explained the provisions of the bill forbidding women to work a minute overtime under the forty-eight hour a week law unless the forty-eight hours are so arranged as to allow a half holiday weekly.

Mrs. Mary A. Murray, railroad employe and chairman of the Industrial Council of the Woman's Party, denounced labor unions and welfare organizations, which, she charged, fostered the legislation.

Another outspoken woman for the cause of Equal Rights was Miss Gail Laughlin, member of the Maine Legislature and an attorney.

"It's part and parcel of that old male concept," Miss Laughlin said, "that the world is made for men and that women are made for the glory and pleasure of men. All we ask is equality of opportunity, equality of work, of hours, of pay. And in order to get that it is necessary that we become aggressive."

Texas Guinan, night club entertainer and one of the speakers, demanded that a "test case" be made and referred to the legislation as the "latest encroachment on the rights of women."

Other speakers included Nina Broderick Price, president of the Zonta Club of New York, and Frances G. Roberts, treasurer of the Industrial Council of the National Woman's Party.

Doris Stevens' Work Honored

New York Telegram, May 13, 1930.

MISS DORIS STEVENS, chairman of the Inter-American Commission for Women, was a guest today at a tea given by Mrs. John Jay White, 122 East 76th street, in recognition of her work at The Hague, where she led opposition to the codification of international law because it did not recogniez the equality of women in nationality.

At 7.15 this evening she will speak over Station WEAF and a national chain, explaining the women's part in the conference at The Hague, and Saturday and Sunday she will be in Washington, where she intends to make a public expression of gratitude to President Hoover and the American delegation for their stand for equality for women.

"The United States' stand against the inequality in nationality in world law was primarily due to the campaign of the women here at home," Miss Stevens said today at the Biltmore.

"This campaign of the women, however, could not have been effective if President Hoover had not listened with friendliness and approval to the women's demands and instructed the United States delegation accordingly.

"Women are therefore profoundly grateful to the President for his part in this achievement. Immediately the United States stood up alone in the world at The Hague and announced its refusal to enter into this world code, we dispatched the following cable to President Hoover: 'Immensely proud distinguished act of United States refusing to sign nationality convention, including discrimination based on sex. Rejoice not only in great service to women, but also in fact powerful nation used that power on side of liberty. Women all over world owe you abiding debt of gratitude.'"

Forty nations voted for the convention and only the United States opposed it, Miss Stevens said. Three days later, when the plenipotentiaries were to sign the document, only 30 put their signatures to the treaty.

"The stand taken by the United States may have caused these ten nations to hesitate," Miss Stevens said.

The treaty provides, Miss Stevens explained, for the perpetuation of all the Old World inequalities in nationality which affect women. For instance, it compels a woman to lose her nationality on marriage to a foreigner and to follow a change in nationality by her husband after marriage.

"The Old World standard won. Now,

however, we shall do our utmost to prevent the 21 republics of the Western Hemisphere from ratifying the treaty," Miss Stevens declared. "We are encouraged in this endeavor by the fact that less than half the countries of this hemisphere signed the convention at The Hague.

"If we can keep this hemisphere out of this new world code because it deals unfairly with women, the next codification conference will hesitate to duplicate this injustice to women on this or any other point affecting women as such."

Miss Stevens pointed out that men lose their citizenship upon the commission of a crime, but that women in many countries at present and in those countries subscribing to the international code may lose their citizenship by marriage.

"If a woman is expected to die for her country, she should have a choice in saying what that country shall be," she said.

The deliberations at the conference were held in secret, and the women were given but one hour in which to plead their case, Miss Stevens said.

Even though the women failed to get equal nationality rights into the code, the fact that unanimous approval has been blocked and that there is still opportunity to block ratification is encouraging, Miss Stevens said.

News from the Field

Doris Stevens Is Honor Guest

MRS. JOHN JAY WHITE, of 122 East 76th street, New York, gave a tea on Tuesday, May 13, in honor of Doris Stevens, chairman of the Inter-American Commission of Women, who returned from The Hague Conference the day before.

Among the Woman's Party guests present were Mrs. Lewis L. Delafield, Miss Ellen Abbott, Rebecca Hourwich, Jane Norman Smith, Margaret C. Williams, Lois Pierce Hughes, Theresa Shiverts, Charlotte H. Dixon, Marion May, Elizabeth Selden Rogers, Mrs. George Laidlaw, Leila Enders, New Jersey State chairman, and Mildred Palmer.

Miss Stevens spoke of the work for equal nationality rights at the conference, and later spoke over WJZ station of the National Broadcasting Station on a coast-to-coast hookup.

Rooms for Visitors in Washington

HEADQUARTERS of the National Woman's Party announces that several spacious, sunny rooms in beautiful Alva Belmont House at 144 B street N. E., just a block from the Capitol, are available for the use of members of the National Woman's Party temporarily in Washington. Some of the rooms overlook the lovely garden with its thousands of roses.

Mrs. Matthews to Go to Detroit

BURNITA SHELTON MATTHEWS, chaiman of the Lawyers' Council of the National Woman's Party and member of the National Council, will speak at the annual meeting of the Michigan Branch of the Woman's Party to be held in Detroit on June 3. Mrs. Walter Nelson is chairman of the Michigan Branch.

Maryland Meetings

FANNY BUNAND SEVASTOS, French Feminist and artist, spoke at the annual meeting of the Maryland Branch of the National Woman's Party, held at the home of Amelia Himes Walker in Baltimore, Maryland, on May 22. She talked on equal nationality, with particular reference to the work of the Inter-American Commission of Women at the International Conference for the Codification of International Law at The Hague.

Prior to Mlle. Bunand's address, officers were elected for the ensuing year and reports of officers and committees were presented.

Mastick Law Assailed

THE New York State Branch of the National Woman's Party held a meeting at the Town Hall, New York City, on Sunday, May 18, to protest against the Mastick Law passed by the 1930 Legislature.

The speakers were Gail Laughlin, member of the Maine Legislature and vice-chairman of the National Woman's Party; Texas Guinan, famous entertainer; Nina Brodrick Price, president of the Zonta Club of New York; Mary A. Murray, railroad employe and chairman of the Industrial Council of the Woman's Party; Frances G. Roberts, restaurant employe and treasurer of the Industrial Council, and Jeannette Cortez, candy industry employe. Edith Houghton Hooker presided.

An Open Letter From Frances Keipel

UNFOLDING our morning newspapers recently, our eyes were drawn to the following headline: "Presbyterians Bar Women Preachers. More Than Majority Defeat Overture That Would Open Pulpits to Fair Sex. Returns Incomplete on Holding Elderships or Becoming Evangelists."

Now, we confess to being a half-century plant. Much of that time has been spent in church surroundings. In looking back over the last fifty years we cannot recall ever having seen a woman assist at the communion service, and so far as preaching the sermon was concerned, that was simply not to be thought of or mentioned—it would be against custom and tradition—custom and tradition, the two bears that stand ever in the path of woman's progress.

The church should be the first to grant Equal Rights to men and women, instead of being, as she is, almost the last. Even the old-fashioned men and women who claim that women's sphere of activity should consist of children, church and cooking could have no real objection to their equality in church affairs.

The church is universally called the bride of Christ and is always spoken of as "she," so why this purely masculine domination? There is no objection to women working in the church! Oh, no! They have boiled thousands of hams, pared mountains of potatoes for potato salad, have fried oysters and made chicken croquettes, to say nothing of miles and miles of cakes they have baked. It is only when the position is one of honor, such as pastor, rector, evangelist, deacon, bishop that the masculine voices are raised in protest.

Two Million Dollar Fund

Treasurer's Report

EMMA WOLD, *Treasurer*
NETTIE TRAIL, C. P. A., *Auditor*

RECEIPTS collected by National Headquarters, December 7, 1912, to April 30, 1930, $1,653,118.00.

Contributions, membership and other receipts, May 1 to 15, 1930:

Miss Isabel L. Jordan, D. C.	$1.00
Miss Esther McLaughlin, N. Y.	1.00
Mrs. R. E. Young, D. C.	1.00
Mrs. E. D. Brannan, N. Y.	170.00
Mrs. Elizabeth T. Kent, Calif.	100.00
Mrs. M. P. Moorer, N. C.	1.00
Miss Lavinia L. Dock, Pa.	5.00
New York City Committee, Headquarter's share of dues from Industrial Council members:	
Mrs. Hanners	.25
Mrs. Margaret Fisher	.25
Miss Keon	.25
Mrs. Frances Powers	.25
Miss Brunges	.25
Miss Zoeller	.25
Mrs. Reynolds	.25
Mrs. Lynch	.25
Mrs. Rooke	.25
Miss Patterson	.25
Mrs. Kerrigan	.25
Miss Chamberlain	.25
Miss Parent	.25
Miss Ada Marks	.25
Mrs. Whateley	.25
New Jersey Branch, Headquarter's share of dues for following members:	
Mrs. Mildred Palmer	.50
Miss Mary Emmons	.25
Miss Ethel Duncan	.25
Mrs. Rachel Davis DuBois	.25
Mrs. Bertha Shippen Irving	.25
Miss Leila Enders	.25
Refunds	5.07
Sales	2.00
Rooms:	
Mrs. Max Rotter	45.00
Miss Helen Greenblatt	2.00
Mrs. M. P. Morrer, N. C.	30.00
Total receipts, May 1 to 15	$368.57
Total receipts, December 7, 1912, to May 15, 1930	$1,853,486.57

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